

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSC-05 ERDA-05
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O R 020031Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022959

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:NATO, OCON, MILI, AWACS

SUBJECT:NATO AEW NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: A. USNATO 529; B. SECDEF 6342

1. OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE AT THIS JUNCTURE IS TO ELICIT A
SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSE ON NATO AEW FROM MINISTER LEBER TO
SECDEF'S JANUARY 31 LETTER (REF B). LEBER, AS A RESULT OF
HIS UNDERSTANDABLE ABSENCE FROM NPG MINISTERIAL IN NOVEMBER
AND FROM DPC MINISTERIAL IN DECEMBER, HAS YET TO PARTICI-
PATE DIRECTLY IN AEW NEGOTIATIONS. SINCE WARSAW PACT LOW-
LEVEL AIR THREAT IN CENTRAL REGION HAS OBVIOUS MILITARY
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CONSEQUENCES FOR FRG, IT IS BOTH ESSENTIAL AND TIMELY -- IN
OUR VIEW -- THAT DEFENSE MINISTER INDICATE HIS POSITION
WITHOUT WHICH NO ALLIED AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE. IN THAT
CONTEXT, WE SEE THE STRAUSZ-HUPE-PAULS EXCHANGES AS USEFUL.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT AMBASSADOR PAULS COULD BE
HELPFUL IN RESOLVING OUTSTANDING BILATERAL DIFFERENCES,

AND PERHAPS IN GAINING WIDER ALLIANCE SUPPORT FOR AEW PROGRAM. HIS ROLE SHOULD BE TO REINFORCE THE BROWN LETTER TO LEBER AND TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NATO AEW PROGRAM TO THE ALLIANCE.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PAULS IS DEPARTING BRUSSELS FOR BONN EARLY A.M. FEBRUARY 2, AND THAT HE INTENDS TO DISCUSS AEW PROGRAM WITH FRG OFFICIALS. WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO PAULS' STATING THAT US WOULD NOT OBJECT TO A THIRD FINANCIAL EXPERTS MEETING IF THAT BE NECESSARY, PROVIDED SECDEF HAS RECEIVED CLEAR SIGNAL OF GREATER FRG FLEXIBILITY IN RESPONSE TO SEC BROWN'S LETTER TO MOD LEBER. MOREOVER, SHOULD THIS POSITIVE SIGNAL BE RECEIVED, THEN US NEGOTIATOR WOULD BE WILLING TO ARRIVE ONE OR TWO DAYS EARLY IN BRUSSELS FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSION WITH FRG FINANCIAL EXPERTS, IF THIS EARLY MEETING IS DESIRED BY FRG.

4. OTHER GUIDANCE REQUESTED IN PARA 6 REF B WILL BE PROVIDED LATER.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 02-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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